

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. 1. A method for collecting sales and/or use taxes on remote sales, said method includes the steps of:
 2. a) collecting by sellers information regarding remote sales made by buyers;
 3. b) calculating securely the correct taxing jurisdictions sales and/or use tax to be paid by buyers for remote sales;
 4. c) collecting by sellers from buyers the correct sales and/or use tax;
 5. d) transmitting by a seller to a taxing jurisdiction the aggregate totals of sales and use tax transactions; and
 6. e) collecting by a taxing jurisdiction the correct sales and/or use tax received by sellers.
7. 2. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the step of: transmitting from the seller to the taxing jurisdiction a log of all sales and use tax transactions.
8. 3. The method claimed in claim 2, wherein a seller is given notice that a taxing jurisdiction is studying its log of all sales and use tax transactions.

1 4. The method claimed in claim 3, wherein a seller may review the seller's log
2 of sales and/or use taxes collected before the taxing jurisdiction studies the
3 seller's log of sales and/or use taxes collected.

1 5. The method claimed in claim 3, wherein a taxing jurisdiction may access
2 the log of sales and/or use taxes collected only after specified time period has
3 passed.

1 6. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the step of:
2 reporting to the taxing jurisdictions the taxes that have been collected.

1 7. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the step of:
2 filing tax returns for sellers with the taxing jurisdictions for the taxes that have
3 been collected.

1 8. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the step of: identifying
2 potentially seller fraudulent behavior by running various checks of the segmented
3 information.

1 9. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of: identifying a
2 strange drop-off in the number of seller transactions in the segmented
3 information.

1 10. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of: examining the
2 history of seller transactions in the segmented account to determine seller trends.

1 11. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of:
2 comparing the transaction volume, dollar volume and transaction types relative to
3 other similar sellers.

1 12. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of: identifying an
2 inordinate number of cancelled transactions in the segmented transactions.

1 13. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of:
2 establishing watermarks for different types of businesses to identify an inordinate
3 amount of returned merchandise for a particular type of business.

1 14. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of: identifying
2 patterns that indicate that a seller may not be reporting the entire amount of
3 taxes collected.

1 15. The method claimed in claim 8, further including the step of: examining
2 cancelled transactions.

1 16. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the step of:
2 receiving responses from buyers indicating acceptance of the sale.

1 17. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the steps of:
2 purchasing by one of the taxing jurisdictions goods and/or services from the
3 seller;
4 transmitting from the seller to the purchasing taxing jurisdiction a log of specified
5 sales and use tax transactions; and
6 comparing the taxes charged by the seller for the goods and/or services
7 purchased by the seller with the log of transactions.

1 18. The method claimed in claim 17, further including the steps of:
2 determining if the seller has reported the appropriate information to the taxing
3 jurisdiction.

4 19. The method claimed in claim 18, further including the step of:
5 establishing improper behavior by the seller when the information reported to the
6 taxing jurisdiction differs from the information obtained by the taxing jurisdiction
7 from the seller for the goods and/or services purchased by the taxing jurisdiction.

1 20. The method claimed in claim 17, further including the steps of:
2 determining if the seller has reported all appropriate taxes to the taxing
3 jurisdiction.

1 21. The method claimed in claim 17, wherein the taxing jurisdiction utilizes an agent
2 to purchase the goods and/or services.

1 22. The method claimed in claim 17, wherein the taxing jurisdiction utilizes an alias to
2 purchase the goods and/or services.

1 23. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein buyers are given a receipt for the taxes
2 they have paid.